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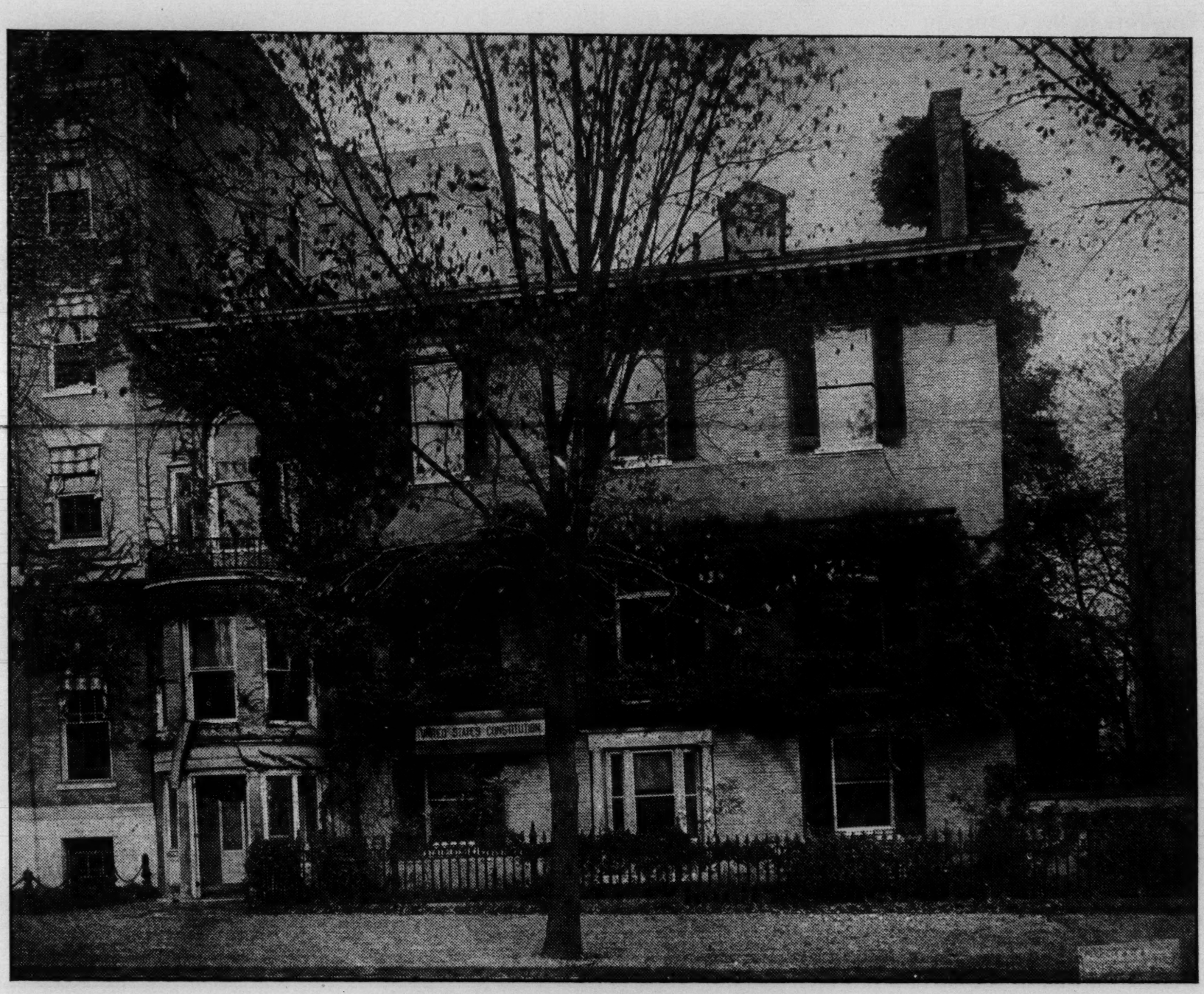
The Suffragist

WEEKLY ORGAN OF THE
CONGRESSIONAL UNION FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE

NOVEMBER 6, 1915



"THE LITTLE WHITE HOUSE"

Headquarters of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage
During its Convention in Washington, D. C.
December 6-13

Vol. III NOVEMBER 6, 1915 No. 45

The Suffragist

Weekly Organ of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage

1420 F Street N. W., Washington, D. C.

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Notes of the Week

The Vote in the Campaign States

THE state suffrage amendments were defeated in New York, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. In New York the total vote cast for suffrage was estimated, as we go to press, at about 350,000; while the vote cast against it was approximately 500,000. In Massachusetts the majority against the measure, roughly estimated, and without record of complete returns, was about 100,000. In Pennsylvania there was an adverse majority of 57,000.

While a large vote was cast against suffrage, a very large vote was cast for it. Immense popular interest was shown in the election of November 2, and this interest was generally atributed to the question of woman suffrage. The verdict of the states on the suffrage issue attracted more attention from one end of the country to the other than any other aspect of the election. This fact alone gives striking proof of the political importance of the question of woman suffrage today.

A number of newspapers predicted that the results of the votes in these three Eastern states will add to the zest and strength of the campaign for the federal suffrage amendment in the course of the next Congress. The *Washington Post* (November 3) says:

"The defeat of the woman suffrage amendments was said to mean that increased efforts will be made by the organizations advocating the cause to put through Congress at the next session an amendment to the federal constitution providing for votes for women. The suffrage leaders, despite the defeats, are understood to be delighted that they made as good a showing as they did, holding that the large vote they were able to poll shows clearly that Congress would be justified in submitting the proposed amendment to all the states."

Women at Polls Give New Tone to Election Day

WOMAN earned her place in New York politics yesterday. She earned it because she made good at the polls. On the very day when voters were denying her the right to be in politics she was there already, and New York was the better for it. The presence of five thousand dignified, efficient women quietly attending to their tasks in the hubbub of election day made its impression upon the thoughtful and the thoughtless alike.

More than one man hurrying to cast his vote stopped and grinned at the sight of the women by the lamppost one hundred feet away from the polls.

"You can't get ahead of the suffragettes," he chuckled.

There was something pathetic about these lonely, brave little pickets. There were thousands of men who grinned or passed them by disdainfully, but they stuck to their lampposts, watching for the chance to say a few words in a willing ear. They had sample ballots to show any one who was interested how to mark his vote for woman suffrage. A winter wind, which has been on the trail of the suffragists ever since the parade, attacked them again, but did not succeed in driving them from their posts.

* * *

Tammany never faltered from its company manners all day. There were a few instances of trouble on the streets, but none within the polls. The women were queens for once, anyway.

"If you weren't here, madam, I would have sworn just now," said one courtly ward boss.

* * *

Mrs. Alice Duer Miller watched at Chatham Square where three Chinese voters were registered.

"Everything was very quiet and polite," she reported to headquarters. "One of the pickets smiled at a Chinese and he ran away, but I don't imagine we need regret his vote."

"Our choice incident of the day," said Mrs. Blatch, "was a drunken man who forgot how to spell his name, and skidded across the page with his pen."

"Oh, well, you couldn't deprive a man of his vote just for that," interrupted the captain merrily. "Why he's been practicing for two weeks on marking that ballot. Three political parties have been trying to teach him. You wouldn't deprive him of his vote after all that trouble, just because of an accident on election day."

Mrs. Blatch smiled, and said nothing.

"We're voting for you, sister," said another voter, bending over a suffrage picket on Sixth Avenue. "We're all gentlemen here, but don't you be deceived. They're knifing you over on Tenth Avenue."

* * *

Miss Margaret Vail, President Wilson's niece, had to be rescued by a policeman from a mob of negroes at Tenth Avenue and Sixty-first Street.

"I see you're a Southerner, Miss," he said. "It must hurt your feelings to have them voting about whether you shall vote."

"It did, I just had to put my Southern pride in my pocket," she said, "but I'm glad I did it."—Emma Bugbee, in the *New York Tribune* (November 3).

New Jersey Women to Ask Presidential Suffrage

MRS. LILLIAN F. FEICKERT, president of the New Jersey Woman Suffrage Association, issued a formal statement last Tuesday declaring that it was the intention of the organization to seek the passage of a bill providing suffrage for women in the Presidential primaries of next May.

Mrs. Feickert commented upon the statement of Richard V. Lindabury to the effect that such a law would be unconstitutional. She says that the mistaken impression has gone forth that the women intended to obtain Presidential suffrage under the New Jersey constitution. Mrs. Feickert's explanation of the situation in part follows:

"Section 2 of article II, of the United States Constitution reads, 'Each state shall appoint, in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives to which the state may be entitled in Congress; but no Senator or Representative or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States shall be appointed an elector.'

"In the early history of the United States there were a number of instances in which the state legislatures themselves chose the presidential electors. South Carolina did this up to and including the year 1860, and the electors were chosen in this way in Tennessee in 1796 and 1800.

"On several occasions the state legislatures have passed acts enabling persons to vote for presidential electors who were barred from doing so by the state constitution, and in every case the right of the legislatures to do this has been upheld by the courts. March 24, 1864, the Maine legislature passed an act to allow soldiers in the field to vote for presidential electors, and the next day it submitted the amendment to the state constitution enabling the soldiers to vote for state officers—thus showing that the latter required a constitutional amendment, but the former did not. New Hampshire also passed a Soldiers' Voting act for presidential electors, the legality of which was unanimously upheld by the Supreme Court of that state, although the act was in conflict with the state constitution. The decision says that the question as to how presidential electors should be chosen 'is governed wholly by the constitution of the United States as the paramount law, and the constitution of this state has no concern with the question.' The Vermont Supreme Court gave an opinion to the same effect.

"In 1913 the Illinois legislature passed a bill granting to women presidential suffrage. It also gave them municipal and county suffrage, which were not prohibited by the state constitution. This act was declared constitutional in a decision handed down by the United States Supreme Court on June 13, 1914.

"In 1915, bills for presidential suffrage were introduced in the legislatures of New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, Indiana, and Wisconsin. Several of these bills only failed of passing by a very small majority, and they will undoubtedly be passed at the next session of the legislature of these and other states."

Illinois Suffragists Endorse Federal Amendment

AT THE Illinois suffragists' convention which was held last week in Chicago, the delegates declared their intention to sweep aside all issues except the full enfranchisement of women. President Wilson's endorsement of the cause in the states, the prohibition question and even world peace were declared to be secondary considerations beside the winning of national suffrage.

Mrs. Grace Wilbur Trout, retiring president of the state organization, predicted that the women of Illinois would be granted full suffrage within three years.

The convention indorsed the Susan B. Anthony amendment to the federal constitution, which eliminates the qualification of sex from the right to vote.

The following officers were elected: Mrs. H. M. Brown, president; Mrs. Harriet Taylor Treadwell, first vice-president; Mrs. Helen Stewart, second vice-president; Mrs. Judith W. Lowenthal, recording secretary; Miss Margaret Dobyn, corresponding secretary; Mrs. John R. Gray, treasurer, and Miss Jennie F. W. Johnson, auditor.

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Rousing Welcome Given Envoys of the Women Voters

STARTING from San Francisco with resolutions passed by the great Convention of Women Voters, declaring the national enfranchisement of women to be one of the foremost issues in the political field today, and pledging the enfranchised women to support it without considering the interest of any political party, Mrs. Sara Bard Field, elected on the floor of the convention to bear these resolutions to Congress, passed last week through Topeka and Marysville, Kansas; and Omaha and Lincoln, Nebraska; and on Saturday, October 30, reached Des Moines, Iowa.

At Des Moines, Senator A. B. Cummins and Congressman Dowell declared their intention to work and vote for the success of the Susan B. Anthony amendment in the Sixty-fourth Congress.

MRS. FIELD writes from Des Moines: "In the 'Enemies' Country,'—that is what the newspapers said of our arrival in Missouri, the first non-suffrage state we reached. Such kind, genial, hospitable 'enemies!' I wish all enemies were of their disposition. For a whole day and night, Kansas City, Missouri, was alive with suffrage enthusiasm; great crowds attended our advent everywhere. We never spoke that whole day, from our noon meeting on the City Hall steps until the last late street meeting at night, but we had more people to talk to than our voices could reach. As our auto procession passed down the street, crowds gathered to see it; and the windows of every business house and office building were lined with kindly faces. Often there was applause and cheers; when these were lacking, there was a peculiar sort of earnest curiosity. And oh, the suffragists!—I wish that every western voting woman who is making any sacrificial effort at all for national suffrage could have seen those grateful women. 'The greatest day for suffrage Kansas City has even seen,' said some of the older suffrage workers; 'how good of the western women to come to our aid!' At the City Club meeting, which was packed, Mr. Frank P. Walsh predicted national suffrage in 1916. There was good fellowship over a suffrage dinner table and earnest street meetings afterwards; gravely interested crowds attended and the newspapers gave large space. The whole city talked national suffrage for at least two days.

"What shall I say of Topeka, where Mabel Vernon held a great crowd for two hours waiting for our arrival while we sat in despair sixty miles off, with bad tire trouble and engine difficulties? We never did arrive until long after the meeting, but Governor Capper sent us his blessing just the same, adding a letter of commendation of the amendment to the large packet that your Envoy carries. And the dear women of the town had procured letters of endorsement from every official from the Attorney General to the State Printer.

"And then there was Marysville, Kansas, with its almost solemn meeting in which the women accepted their responsibility to their disfranchised sisters."

In Omaha a great crowd gathered at the steps of the Court House to meet the little car which has born the envoys from San Francisco. Mayor Dolman, who is extremely popular in Omaha, made a splendid speech of welcome, and Miss Vernon and Mrs. Field spoke to one of the most enthusiastic audiences they had met in their journey across the country. A large number of people signed the great petition, calling out at the end of the meeting, "Mayor first!"—and the Mayor signed while the crowd applauded and the press photographers took his picture.

In Lincoln Mrs. W. E. Hardy, with other Nebraska suffragists, brought the members of the party into the office of Governor Morehead, of Nebraska. The party arrived at the Capitol in ten automobiles gaily bedecked with flags and suffrage pennants. In the leading auto was a bugler with a long silver trumpet, who bugled brilliantly, at brief intervals, all the way from the Lincoln Hotel to the Capitol; and then preceded the party into the State House.

Mayor Bryan of Lincoln, Nebraska, Brother of William Jennings Bryan, Welcomes Mrs. Field

The *Nebraska State Journal* (October 28), said, "Mrs. Field, who is an attractive and vivacious young woman, spoke briefly on the woman's movement, and what it means for women to hold a convention such as that at San Francisco for the sole purpose of securing for other women what four million women already possess. 'I am an envoy,' she said, 'from the first woman's convention ever held in the world;' and she added that the Governor of each state which she had passed on her Eastern trip had given her not only a friendly reception, but also letters endorsing the amendment for which she was working. She then asked Governor Morehead for his signature to the petition, saying: 'We want you to come with us before the tide has passed by.' In reply the Governor said: 'I suppose you are aware that this state has recently passed upon this issue. It would be unbecoming for me as General Executive of the state to sign a petition favoring an amendment which the state has passed upon adversely. I should be advocating something without effect and against the wishes of a majority of the people.' 'The governor in my state, Oregon,' said Mrs. Field, 'signed five times, although the state voted against equal suffrage.' 'We are all governors in Nebraska,' replied Governor Morehead, 'I am here to enforce the law and not to ask Congress for anything contrary to what the majority of the people want.'"

After courteous farewells the women returned to the automobiles and drove down to the City Hall where Mayor Bryan, brother of William Jennings Bryan, met them on the steps. Mr. Bryan greeted the envoys very warmly and signed their petition to Congress.

From Nebraska the envoys went to Des Moines, where they had a magnificent welcome. Mrs. Field, Miss Kindberg and Miss Kindstedt were escorted in their car to the Capitol grounds by a long line of automobiles decorated with yellow bunting, pennants and suffrage legends. Miss Flora Dunlap, president of the Iowa Equal Suffrage Association, headed the procession in her electric coupé; and the escort included the presidents and officers of the four suffrage groups of Des Moines, state suffrage workers and suffrage sympathizers.

At the formal reception to Mrs. Field held on the west steps of the Capitol, the envoys were welcomed to the state by Mr. W. S. Allen, the Secretary of State, and Mr. H. W. Beyers, the Corporation Council of Des Moines, acting for Mayor Hanna. Both Mr. Allen and Mr. Beyers endorsed the suffrage amendment, and a long list of signatures of Des Moines residents were attached to the petition. Congressman Dowell of the Seventh District of Iowa, sent a message to the assembly, promising his hearty support of the Susan B. Anthony amendment in the next session.

From the Capitol grounds the automobile procession moved to the home of Senator Cummins, one of the leading members of the Republican party and a prominent candidate for the presidency, who, with Mrs. Cummins, had invited the envoys and their friends to their home on Saturday evening. Mrs. Cummins had planned to be a member of the escorting body but decided later to remain at home and be in readiness for her guests. Senator Cummins' kindness to the suffrage envoys gave great weight and dignity to their message in Iowa.

Mrs. Field and her party resumed their Eastern journey on November 1, stopping at Cedar Rapids and Clinton. A demonstration has been planned for their arrival in Chicago the latter part of this week.

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The Susan B. Anthony Amendment

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of the said legislatures, shall be valid as part of said Constitution, namely:

"ARTICLE.—SEC. 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"SEC. 2. Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this article."

HISTORY OF THE AMENDMENT

Drafted

In its present form, by Susan B. Anthony in 1875.

First Introduced

Into Congress, January 10, 1878, by Hon. A. A. Sargent, in the U. S. Senate.

Reported from Committee,

In the Senate,

1878, Adverse majority.
1879, Favorable minority.
1882, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1884, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1886, Favorable majority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1892, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1896, Adverse majority.
1913, Favorable majority.
1914, Favorable majority.

In the House,

1883, Favorable majority.
1884, Adverse majority, favorable minority.
1886, Favorable minority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1894, Adverse majority.
1914, Without recommendation.

Voted Upon

In the Senate,

January 25, 1887. Yeas 16, nays 34. Absent 26 (of whom 4 were announced as for, and 2 against).

March 19, 1914. Yeas 35, nays 34, failing by 11 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

In the House,

January 12, 1915. Yeas 174, nays 204 failing by 78 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

New York, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania

THE vote on the suffrage amendment in New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania was in many ways an astonishing political event. Although suffrage was defeated in each state by large majorities, it secured an enormous favorable vote.

The voting in each state was very heavy and the interest manifested was universally attributed to the suffrage issue.

Press reports of the election everywhere gave the headline to the suffrage news. The vote on suffrage was clearly the foremost political issue of the election throughout the entire nation.

TO ESTIMATE the extraordinary achievement of the state suffrage workers, it is only necessary to consider how great a vote any of the measures passed in the last Congress would have secured in New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, if they had been submitted to the vote of the people, with the state machines of both the political parties actively arrayed against them. Imagine the vote the Currency Bill would have secured under such conditions, without official support from Washington, and with both parties against it in the state! It would have gone down to defeat without causing a ripple of public interest. Yet it is now law, and is regarded as a measure generally approved by the people at large.

There is no other public question today that under the same conditions could have aroused anything like the deep interest in four great eastern states, or called forth the immense support, which the suffrage amendment did.

YET it is to be hoped that in these states similar campaigns will not be undertaken again.

In the first place, a referendum of male voters on woman suffrage is not just.

Men have no right to limit or prohibit the political rights of women. The verdict of a referendum of men on women's political status has no moral sanction whatever.

If the men were voting on a question affecting their own rights, they could justly limit or prohibit them, even if their decision was not a wise one.

In the case of woman suffrage the refusal of men to extend to women the rights they enjoy themselves, while at the same time they make laws imposing equal burdens upon women, is absolutely unjust.

It is far better for women to appeal to the lawmakers gathered at Washington. These men represent some women at least, and are anxious to secure the organized support of others.

IN SUBMITTING to a popular referendum on suffrage, women are working under the heaviest possible disadvantages. They have to convert individually millions of voters scattered over a wide territory; speaking and understanding different languages; subject to many widely varying racial prejudices.

This is difficult; but it is not the main difficulty.

The electorate they must consult its politically organized and subject to strong political control, direct and indirect. With the political machines against suffrage as they were in all four campaign states, women have a big handicap to overcome, over and above the enormous task of winning a majority of the voters.

THE opposition of the political machines is one of the biggest factors in the result of a suffrage referendum.

Yet these organizations act without incurring any responsibility whatever. Their leaders, in office and out of office, pass the word of command to their followers secretly; the voters at the polls register their verdict secretly. Not a single person in the community can be held responsible for his refusal to accord half the people the common rights of citizenship.

FEDERAL work for suffrage places the responsibility for the solution of the suffrage question in the hands of national and state legislators.

It is true that these men act for voters, and subject to pressure from voters; but they act in the open, and must face the disapproval of powerful suffrage organizations if they oppose the enfranchisement of women.

If a whole party opposes suffrage, they are on record as opposing it, and lose the confidence of people who believe in suffrage.

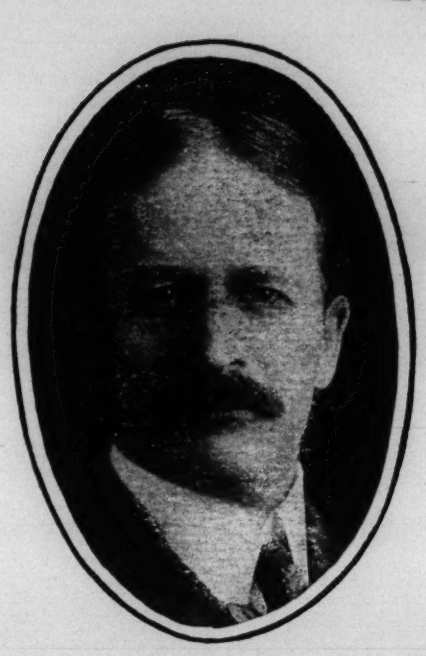
ONE result of a state campaign that cannot be overlooked is the apparent mandate it gives the representatives of that state to oppose woman suffrage in Congress.

"My constituents have voted against the measure by such a majority," they say, "and I could not vote for it even if I wished to do so."

It is rather a pity for suffragists to spend their time and money in securing a count of votes against their own measure.

If the count accurately registered the sentiment of each Congressional district, something might be said for it. But the whole force of machine politics in the state has turned indifferent—even friendly—voters against suffrage. The whole world knows this. The counted vote does not indicate the real sentiment of a constituency. Suffragists might pause to consider whether they should initiate a count of votes when the whole machinery of counting is in the hands of their enemies, and the result of the count, however secured, is used as a "last-resort" argument against them.

The Sutherland-Mondell Amendment

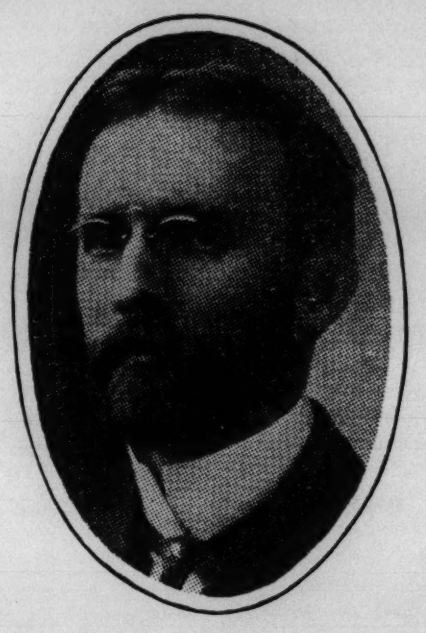


Hon. Frank W. Mondell of Wyoming
Who Will Introduce the Suffrage Amendment in the House

THE Susan B. Anthony amendment, providing that the right of citizens of the United States shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex, will be introduced in the Sixty-fourth Congress by Senator Sutherland of Utah in the Senate, and Congressman Mondell in the House of Representatives.

Senator Sutherland will be a powerful ally of woman suffrage in the Senate. The Senator from Utah is one of the best constitutional lawyers in Congress and highly respected for clear thinking and just dealing. One of the kindest men in the Senate, he gave most generous help to the suffrage workers in the last session of Congress, and his advice and support next session will be of great value to the national suffrage movement.

Mr. Mondell introduced the suffrage amendment in the House last session and worked for it with brilliant ability and energy. Under his leadership the amendment came to a vote on the floor of the House for the first time in the history of this country, and gained 174 favorable votes to 204 opposed; a formidable showing for a measure which had been officially opposed by the party holding a two-thirds majority of the House membership. Mr. Mondell is known and trusted by suffragists from one end of the country to the other.



Senator George Sutherland of Utah
Who Will Introduce the Suffrage Amendment in the Senate

"The Little White House"

By Constance Drexel

THE famous old mansion, popularly known as the Little White House, because it has been used by several Vice-Presidents, will again be the scene of social and political activity. The suffragists will be "at home" during the month of December.

As the mansion is across from the White House, and easily visible from its windows, the President will look out upon the colors of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage—their purple, gold and white, flying high against the sky,—and will have no difficulty in deciphering the blazing letters on their great banner strung out against the line of the balconies: "We demand an amendment to the United States Constitution, enfranchising women."

The house in Lafayette Square will be used as the headquarters of the Congressional Union for their great National Convention, to be held December 6 to 13. This convention will far eclipse the one recently held in San Francisco, which created such a stir along the Coast and Middle West. As in San Francisco, Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, of New York, will take an indefatigable interest in the political activities of the week. Mrs. Belmont will be hostess at a reception to be given the two envoys motoring across the continent. President Wilson has already agreed to see them at two o'clock on December 6, when they will present resolutions urging the passage of the Susan B. Anthony amendment, and a petition of over 500,000 names signed at the Exposition. During the same week Mrs. Richard Wainwright, of Washington, wife of Rear Admiral Wainwright, will be in charge of a large dinner for members of the convention; and there will be also many luncheons and other functions at which Washington society will be largely represented.

However, the week of December 6, one of the minor incidents of which is the opening of Congress, and which has already been selected for the opening fire of the Democratic Party, when its National Committee will meet—this week of December 6 will see the suffragists doing something besides holding house parties in the "Little White House." Congress is to be invaded—wheedled, coaxed or persuaded by preference, but bombarded if necessary—into passing an amendment to the federal Constitution. Congress will have to do it some time. That is a foregone conclusion. Everyone admits that. They might as well do it now and be done with it, says the Congressional Union.

From past experience, Congress likes being invaded by the suffragists, else why prolong the experience, since suffragists will never let go until that federal amendment has gone through? The week of December 6 to 13 will have hearings before Congress, during which a speedy passage of the amendment will be urged.

Built in 1828 by the Tayloe family, the walls of "The Little White House," could they speak, could tell tales. It is one of the most historical houses in Washington, having been the residence of Dolly Madison and thus often called the Madison House. It has also been used by Don Cameron, at one time member of President Grant's Cabinet, and later Senator from Pennsylvania. When Senator Mark Hanna had the house, President McKinley was a frequent guest. One of the Vice-President who occupied it and helped give the mansion its title "The Little White House," is Vice-President Garrett Hobart.

It is safe to say that the political and social activities of the suffragists during December will equal if not surpass those already witnessed within its walls.

New Members of the Advisory Council

MRS. E. F. FEICKERT, president of the New Jersey Woman Suffrage Association, and Miss Harriet Bain, president of the Kenosha, Wis., Woman Suffrage Association, and member of the Executive Board of the State Woman Suffrage Association, have joined the Advisory Council of the Congressional Union.

The Congressional Union in Vermont

VERMONT has taken a strong stand for the Susan B. Anthony amendment and its passage through Congress next session.

A branch of the Congressional Union was formed at Montpelier on October 28. Mrs. J. Borden Estee was elected chairman of the Vermont Branch; Miss O. C. Ashton, of Rutland, vice-chairman; Miss Grace Waters, of St. Albans, secretary; Dr. Anna L. Kelton, of Montpelier, treasurer. A state constitution was submitted to the members of the Congressional Union and adopted.

The organization of the Congressional Union in Vermont came at the close of a series of meetings addressed by Mrs. Lillian M. Ascough, chairman of the Congressional Union in Connecticut, in connection with Mrs. J. Borden Estee, of Montpelier. Mrs. Ascough has spoken in Burlington, Montpelier, Rutland, Enosburg Falls, Manchester and St. Albans.

Delegations of women have visited the two Senators and the two Representatives from Vermont and asked their support of the federal suffrage amendment. On Monday, October 25, a delegation visited Senator Page, of Vermont. Senator Page listened with very keen attention to an explanation of the political status of the suffrage movement throughout the country.

Members of the delegation that visited Senator Page included Mrs. J. Borden Estee, Mrs. J. L. Kelton, Mrs. E. B. Bailey, of Monpelier; Mrs. N. H. Morse, of Waterbury; Mrs. M. M. Taplin, Mrs. E. T. Keys, Miss E. S. Eaton, of Orleans; Mrs. Annette W. Parmelee, of Enosburg Falls, and Mrs. W. E. Ascough, of Hartford, Conn.

Two days later, on October 27, a delegation visited Representative Greene, of Vermont. Mrs. Ascough said at the close of the interview: "We were pleased by the cordial way we were received by Mr. Greene. He did not express his opinion on the matter, but we did not ask that. He listened to us with deep attention and interest."

Other deputations have seen Senator Dillingham and Congressman Dale, of Vermont.

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Senator La Follette Promises Aid to Suffrage

SENATOR LA FOLLETTE gave splendid testimony to the growth of the suffrage movement in Congress at a recent interview with a delegation of his constituents in Madison, Wisconsin.

"Since I have been in the Senate—in fact, within the last two years," said the Senator, "the attitude of official Washington has changed toward woman suffrage. Ridicule and contempt have given way to a serious and dignified consideration of the question. The progress made by the intelligent, earnest women in charge of your campaign is most remarkable."

Senator La Follette With His Constituents

The delegation met Senator La Follette on October 19 at his office in Madison. The members of the delegation, who represented the Dane County Equal Suffrage Association and the Business Women's Suffrage Society, met at the Park Hotel, accompanied by Mrs. A. R. Colvin, of St. Paul, and Mrs. Benton MacKaye, both of the Congressional Union. They went to see Senator La Follette in a body. Mrs. Willard G. Bleyer, acting as spokesman for the party, told the Senator that they were convinced that the most rational way and the quickest way and the right way of securing the justice that was due to women and the better democracy that is represented in equal franchise was to work for the enactment of the Susan B. Anthony constitutional amendment which would bring the ballot to the women by federal enactment rather than state enactment, the legislatures of the states confirming the constitutional amendment.

"We have come here," said Mrs. Bleyer, "to thank you for the faithful way that you have worked for our cause at all times and in all places and for the splendid work which you have done for the passage of the constitutional amendment."

"It gives me great pleasure," Senator La Follette said in reply," to receive your committee and to express my appreciation of your approval of the support which I have given to the federal amendment for woman suffrage. I hope it is not necessary for me to reaffirm my loyalty to the principle of fundamental democracy involved in the issue which that amendment presents. I cannot remember a time when I did not believe in woman suffrage. . .

"I am for votes for women because it will result in a more enlightened, better-balanced citizenship, and a truer democracy. . . .

"And your day of triumph is at hand. Reaction may resist; conservatism may protest; but be of stout heart, for the righteousness of your cause will prevail."

Congressman Miller of Minnesota Interviewed

THE most successful delegation held in Minnesota through the past summer's campaign took place in Duluth on Tuesday, October 24, when over a hundred of the most representative women of that city gathered in the sun parlor of the Spalding Hotel, and waited upon Congressman Clarence B. Miller to tell him of their interest in suffrage, and to request him to vote for the Susan B. Anthony amendment.

Mrs. Gertrude Hunter, national organizer in Minnesota, addressed the meeting prior to the deputation to Mr. Miller.

At 3.30 Mr. Miller came to the Spalding Hotel to meet the delegation of women assembled there. Mrs. Hunter introduced as speakers Dr. Mary McCoy, a leading physician of that city and long identified with the suffrage movement of northern Minnesota; Mrs. W. W. Lawrence, president of the Duluth Equal Suffrage Association; Mrs. W. S. Woodbridge, president of the Duluth Women's Council; Miss Marie d'Autremont, who spoke for a group of young women who have recently become interested in the national suffrage movement, and Mrs. Moses Cook, a prominent Jewish society and club woman.

Mrs. Hunter then closed the deputation by addressing Mr. Miller as representing the women of the state of Minnesota. She told him of the strong sentiment which she had found existing throughout his own Eighth District, and over the entire state. "We feel," she said, "a peculiar fitness in coming to you as Minnesota women in the face of the difficulties that have been set up before us in getting suffrage from the men of our own state. I refer to the provision of our state constitution which requires us to secure a majority of all the votes cast at any election—a well-nigh impossible thing to do. For myself and the women I represent I ask you to vote for the Susan B. Anthony amendment, and I feel confident in doing so you will be representing the best interests of your own district."

In replying to the deputation, Mr. Miller said, "I want to congratulate you, Mrs. Hunter, and the women of this delegation, on your tact and wisdom. You have never once referred to the fact that I voted against this bill in the last Congress. You are also to be congratulated in that you have not asked me at this time to go on record as to what my vote will be.

"There has never been a time within the past ten years when I did not believe that women should have the ballot. To vote is a right, not a privilege. It should be enjoyed equally by men and women. . .

"I am sorry, however, that you are putting so much stress at this time upon the Congressional end. I have always since my earliest boyhood, believed in the sacredness of the Constitution of the United States. When the Constitutional Convention was in session, the matter of the suffrage was left entirely with the individual state to decide. The only measure which has dealt with this question, the Fifteenth amendment, was an abortive measure.

"To secure the passage of this amendment you must secure, not only a majority in Congress, but a two-thirds' majority, and after that it must be ratified by three-fourths of the state legislatures before it can become a law. I think it will take at least five years for you to gain the ballot in this way in your state.

"But it will take us a hundred years by the state method," said Mrs. Hunter.

"If, when this matter comes up in Congress, I can reconcile it to my interpretation of the Constitution I shall bear in mind the wishes of this delegation," said Mr. Miller. "If I cannot do that in conscience, I shall be forced to vote against it."

Mrs. Hunter then said in reply to some of Mr. Miller's objections: "I want to remind you, Mr. Miller, that the reason for leaving the matter of suffrage to the individual states to decide was that the delegates from every colony had an entirely different idea of what qualifications should constitute the right to vote. They could not agree, and therefore compromised the matter by leaving it to the individual state, which in hardly a single instance has the same qualifications now as at the time of the Federation of those thirteen colonies.

"I also want to remind you that we are not asking to have voting qualifications changed altogether. We are simply asking that Congress forbid our disfranchisement on account of sex, which we do not hold to be a proper electoral qualification. After that is done the individual state will retain its qualification of property, education or whatever it may be, and the voting women will be governed by it as are the voting men."

Nearly all those present who were not already members of the Congressional Union came forward and expressed their desire to permanently identify themselves with this great national movement for the enfranchisement of the women of the United States.

Among the women forming the deputation that waited on Mr. Miller were Mrs. W. S. Woodbridge, president of the Women's Council; Mrs. A. E. Walker, head of the Woman's Auxiliary to the St. Louis County Medical Association, and regent of Daughters of Liberty chapter, D. A. R.; Mrs. William Pitt Abbott, Mrs. W. W. Lawrence, president of the E. S. A.; Miss Marie d'Autremont, Miss Nannie Turrish, Mrs. Luther Mendenhall, Dr. Mary McCoy, prominent physician; Mrs. Moses Cook, who represented the Jewish women of the city; Miss Porter of the State Normal School; Miss Harriet Glendon, representing the women teachers of the city; Mrs. C. E. Spring of the Housewives' League; Miss Elizabeth Turrell, representing the office women; Miss Edna Meeker, head of the Associated Charities; Miss Victoria Erickson, of the state factory inspection department; and Mrs. A. H. Brocklehurst, representing the largest club in the city, the Twentieth Century.

Deputation to Senator Catron of New Mexico

WITHIN the past week the women of New Mexico have plainly shown their desire for enfranchisement and have indicated their intention to put their work solidly behind the Susan B. Anthony amendment.

Leading women of Santa Fe called upon Senator Catron on October 21, urging him to give his support to the national suffrage amendment. Extremely earnest and able speeches were made by the women in the deputation, and a deep impression was created on public opinion in New Mexico.

Senator Catron's outspoken opposition to the principle of woman suffrage has also rallied sentiment to the suffrage side. In answering the speakers, the Senator discussed the status of man as compared with that of woman, and quoted from the Bible the story of the forbidden fruit and the results of eating it. "The Lord," said Senator Catron, "has given Man dominion over Woman." It would be injurious, he went on, to lower woman from the pedestal man has placed her upon; and it would be injudicious to deprive man of woman's refining influence.

Senator Catron referred also to the defeat of suffrage in New Jersey and Ohio. "It looks to me," he said, "as if you are asking me to do something not exactly right when you ask me to go to Washington to help pass an amendment to give the ballot to people who have stated plainly that they don't want it."

The Santa Fe *New Mexican* devoted columns of space to the interview, and commented editorially on Senator Catron's lack of understanding of the issue presented to him.

"There is no gainsaying the fact," said the *New Mexican* (October 22), "that Senator Catron appears, from his talk yesterday, to have an inadequate conception of the character and achievements of the women of his own state."

Senator Catron Receiving a Delegation of Suffragists

ON THE deputation, which was led by Mrs. F. C. Wilson, the speakers were Miss Aurora Lucero, who talked from the viewpoint of the Spanish-American women; Mrs. Rupert Asplund, Mrs. Cleofas Romero, and Mrs. E. St. Clair Thompson.

"Spanish-American women," Miss Lucero said in part, "comprise about one-half the population of this state. . . . It is true that the Spanish-American women, as well as the women of any Latin race, are much more reserved than their Anglo-American sisters; but it is true also that they take as much interest, if not more, in anything that concerns the home and the welfare of humanity in general; and they could soon be made to realize that they could exercise a greater influence in the home by casting a vote at an election and thus helping to elect better men to make better laws for themselves and for their children.

"However, they will not take an interest in politics to the extent of demanding to run for public office; their domestic inclinations make that impossible, but they will become a quiet and deep factor in politics, and one that will be desired by all the men of New Mexico.

"Therefore, in the name of our Spanish-American women—of the daughters of the conquistadores who came here hundreds of years ago and suffered privations and hardships in order to settle our own dear state, and to make of this our Santa Fe a monument for posterity; in behalf of our Anglo-American sisters, in behalf of all women, I plead with you to grant us suffrage by voting for the Susan B. Anthony amendment in Congress."

Mrs. Asplund, who is president of the State Federation of Clubs, made a masterly argument for the Susan B. Anthony amendment itself.

"In order to get an amendment to the suffrage clause in the constitution of New Mexico," she said, "it is necessary to get three-fourths of the votes cast at an election and two-thirds of the votes cast by each county in the state. This is an impossible task; so the women of the state turn naturally to a United States constitutional amendment.

"There are two such measures to be placed before Congress. The Susan B. Anthony amendment, forbidding disfranchisement because of sex, is short, clear, and effective.

"The Shafroth-Palmer amendment, proposing to establish the initiative and referendum in each state for the disposition of the suffrage question, is very defective. It would force upon the electorate the use of the initiative petition, a piece of governmental machinery rejected by the New Mexico Constitutional Convention; and it would secure to women, after the work of amending the federal constitution is done, nothing but a method, and a very difficult one at that, for obtaining suffrage."

The deputation, made up of one hundred and fifty Santa Fe women, made their faith in suffrage public by driving through the streets in automobiles before proceeding to the residence of Senator Catron. Hundreds of people turned out to witness the procession, probably the first ever held in New Mexico by a suffrage delegation.

Women Voters See Congressman Hawley of Oregon

THE deputation to Congressman W. C. Hawley took place in the Capital City of Salem, on October 25 at five o'clock. The large crowd of Salem women assembled at the Marion Hotel and proceeded in decorated automobiles to the Capitol. The route of the parade ran through the main business streets and down State Street, the beautiful boulevard which passes along the several blocks of parkway, in which are situated the main public buildings of the city. The day was so perfect that the deputation was held on the beautiful west steps of the Capitol. Nearly two hundred people were present.

Among these were Honorable James Withycombe, Governor of Oregon; Mrs. Alice Dodd, professor of History of Art at the Willamette University; Mrs. Florence Cartwright, wife of a prominent Salem physician, and herself one of Salem's most active club women; Mrs. George P. Putnam, wife of the Secretary of the Governor; Mrs. Olive E. Enwright, one of the leaders of the suffrage movement in her own state; Mrs. J. H. Churchill, wife of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; Mrs. H. J. Schulderman, Mrs. R. B. Goodin, wife of the Secretary of the Oregon State Board of Control; Mrs. Claire Inman, of the Willamette University; Mrs. H. Hayden, the aunt of Miss Cornelia Cook, who is chairman of the Congressional Union in Oregon, and many other noted suffragists—Mrs. Vera Fricker, Mrs. Anna Fitch, Mrs. George P. Fox, Mrs. R. K. Page, Mrs. Elizabeth Sherwood, Mrs. G. B. Skulason, Mrs. J. J. Craps, of the W. C. T. U.; Mrs. Lydia Bowerman, Mrs. Eugene Gillingham, Mrs. J. D. Eaton and Mrs. O. P. Hoff.

"The women of the West," Mrs. Cartwright said, "having gained the suffrage, wish now to lend their help to the sisters in the East in their struggle for political fredom."

The second speaker, Mrs. Alice Dodd, said, "Mr. Hawley, we are interested today not so much in what the men of Oregon have done for the West but what they will now do for the East. We come to you today as fellow citizens, as members of your constituency, asking you now to lend your great influence to this matter. We hope that in the months to come you will be foremost in this movement; that you will take rank with the champions of this inimitably just, but sadly belated movement. The greatness of our cause is the justification of our urgent request."

In reply Mr. Hawley said, "In times past I have entertained many delegations of men but I was never half so scared as now! I have listened to your excellent speeches without doubt as to my conviction. I have always cast my vote for woman suffrage both in the state and in the nation. I have my reasons for believing in woman suffrage. I have always considered my mother, my wife and my daughter as comrades in private life and I see no reason why they should not also be comrades in public life. In my many years of educational work I came in contact with many able women whose patriotism matched their mother love, the measure of which is not known, women, capable, industrious, bearing the ordinary burdens of citizens.

"As to the result in the next Congress I cannot say. There are about two hundred new members whose attitude I do not yet know. If this amendment is not passed in the coming session I believe that we will live to see it passed, and that in a not far distant day; we will live to see the people determine their own equality."

The governor was then called upon and he responded by saying, "I am confirmed in my belief in woman suffrage. I was converted thirty-eight years ago by an address delivered by Mrs. Duniway. I believe in woman suffrage because it stands for a higher ideal of government. Women stand for men who believe in the sanctity of the home. I consider it an honor to be the first governor to be elected under equal suffrage in Oregon."

Treasurer's Report

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Mrs. Aline Phillips	2.00
Mrs. E. M. Halderman	5.25
Total	$976.20
Previously acknowledged in THE SUFFRAGIST	80,876.18
Total collected through November 1	$81,852.38

Michigan Women See Congressman Loud

ON OCTOBER 22, fifty of the representative women of Bay City, Michigan, wearing the purple, white and gold colors of the Congressional Union, went in a body to the Board of Commerce rooms to present the suffrage question to Congressman George A. Loud, and to learn his attitude on the proposed Susan B. Anthony amendment to the federal constitution.

At the interview, Mrs. G. B. Jennison, president of the Bay County Equal Suffrage Association, introduced the speakers.

Mrs. James Wilcox, of Monitor township, spoke from the standpoint of a farmer's wife, and Miss Helen MacGregor, principal of the Freemont school, told of the wage earning women's desire for the ballot. They were followed by Mrs. A. M. Miller, who spoke of the mother's need of civic power. Mrs. W. F. English, of Saginaw, representing the State Equal Suffrage Association, told Congressman Loud that her society was working wholeheartedly for the Susan B. Anthony amendment.

Mrs. Nelson Whittemore, of Detroit, then said, "I come from the Congressional Union and we stand for the Susan B. Anthony amendment which reads, 'The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by any state on account of sex.'" She came, she said, to ask the Congressman to be one of the two-thirds majority necessary to submit that amendment to the state legislatures. Mrs. Whittemore emphasized the fact that it was the duty of the Congressman, if he was convinced of the national importance of the suffrage issue, to vote to submit it to the states and leave to the state legislatures their constitutional duty of deliberating upon and accepting or rejecting the amendment.

In reply, Colonel Loud said that he was always delighted to find out the sentiments of the people he represented. "I am in favor of suffrage," he said, "for every reason you have given; I have voted for suffrage whenever I had a chance. I have taken part in a great suffrage parade. However, when I vote as a representative of the people, I feel myself strictly bound by the sentiment of my constituents who voted in Michigan against woman suffrage."

On being questioned, Mr. Loud admitted that he ought to consider the women of the district as much as the men, and he assured the women that he would vote for the Susan B. Anthony amendment if he knew that the district favored it. He begged his visitors to spare no means to make him aware of the real sentiment of his district.

"All women ought to have an opinion on the matter," he said, "and I cannot understand how an intelligent woman can be indifferent to it."

5,000 New Subscribers

Members Who Have Secured New Subscribers to "The Suffragist"

(In this column we list the subscriptions sent in each week by our members. These are only a part of the total number of new subscribers.)

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Mrs. Mary S. Avery	1
Mrs. M. E. Klamer	2
Miss Elizabeth Smith	1
Mrs. Lawrence Lewis, Jr.	2
Miss Charlotte Johnston	1
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Total number of new subscribers secured by members through October 30	1,600

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